

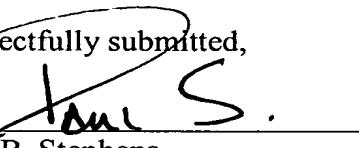
REMARKS

The parent application (U.S. Application Serial No. 09/941,481) was filed with original claims 1-8. Claims 1-5 have been allowed in that case. Claims 6-8 were withdrawn from that case without prejudice, as directed to a non-elected invention.

Each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Dated: October 17, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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